

**Department of Transportation Services (DTS)  
Transportation Mobility Division Title VI Program  
Service Equity Analysis Report  
Route 44 Waipahu/Ewa Beach**

**Introduction**

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin in programs and activities receiving Federal financial assistance. DTS' 2019 Public Transit Title VI Program identifies the policies and procedures used to determine whether service change proposals are considered "major" and to evaluate the impact of major service changes on minority (TVI) and low income (EJ) populations.

Based on the following criteria, the proposal to eliminate the Old Fort Weaver Road segment of Route 44 does not meet the criteria for a "major" service change, and therefore, does not trigger the requirement for a Service Equity Analysis.

"Eliminating route segments when the affected ridership of the eliminated segment exceeds 10% of the route's total ridership."

Route 44 Annual Ridership FY 2020

Entire Route:	196,117
Eliminated Segment:	1,715
Affected ridership:	.87%

**Background**

TheBus Route 44 provides circulator service between Waipahu and Ewa Beach via Old Fort Weaver Road, a rural, local roadway that provided the only access to Ewa Beach over 30 years ago. Over the years and in tandem with the development of the second city Kapolei, the Ewa agricultural plain was redeveloped with residential/commercial uses and the current Fort Weaver Road arterial. Old Fort Weaver Road and its surrounding area were not included in the redevelopment and remains the same as it was many years ago when it was the only road into Ewa Beach. Although ridership has decreased significantly over the years due to the adjacent developments, TheBus service remains on the original routing along Old Fort Weaver Road.

The Hawaii Department of Transportation's project to reconstruct Farrington Highway addresses the area's redevelopment and includes redesigning the Farrington Highway intersection at Old Fort Weaver Road. Due to the redesign, Route 44 will not be able to serve Old Fort Weaver Road in the westbound direction because left turns will be prohibited from Farrington Highway onto Old Fort Weaver Road.

**Proposed Changes**

The proposal eliminates the Old Fort Weaver Road segment from Route 44 based on minimal ridership and the time/distance impacts if the route is to be modified to continue service on Old Fort Weaver Road. Bypassing Old Fort Weaver Road:

- Eliminates circuitous routing through a rural area with sparse densities and very low ridership.
- Eliminates the double-back off-routed trips to service the Queen's Medical Center West Oahu (QMC), the major health care facility for the Leeward Coast, Kapolei, Ewa, and Waipahu districts.
- Improves service efficiency and travel times for the majority of riders with direct service between Ewa Beach/Waipahu along the main corridor, Fort Weaver Road.
- Provides direct access to QMC on every trip.

### **Public Outreach Activities**

Public outreach and participation are important components when planning service changes. Riders/public are encouraged to provide comments and suggestions via email, phone call, voicemail, and the website portal. Point of contact information is provided on all notifications to provide the public with various options to voice their comments. To elicit feedback on the proposed changes, the following outreach methods are utilized.

- Notification email and copies of Rider Notices to Honolulu City Council Members whose districts are affected by the proposals and the Transportation Committee Chair.
- Notification email and copies of Rider Notices to the Neighborhood Boards affected by the proposals. (Presentation to be made upon request)
- Media Notifications by DTS Public Information Specialist. (i.e. Press Release, Twitter, Instagram).
- Rider Notices posted at affected bus stops along affected routes.
- Onboard notification and distribution of Rider Notices by bus operators of affected routes.
- Distribution of Rider Notices to selected developments, businesses, facilities, residents, etc. affected by the proposals.
- Notifications on TheBus.org website and linked to the DTS website.
- Notification email and copies of Rider Notices are provided to the Department of Human Services/Division of Vocational Rehabilitation/Hoopono Services for the Blind for distribution and are in a format on the website to use low sight features.
- Informational material on the website are available in a format to use the translation feature. Translation of notices into a required language(s) will be provided on request, unless the service area's neighborhood board/bus drivers indicate that translated notices are needed for the limited English population.